URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON

1 9 5 6

Chairman of the Council 1956 - 1957:

COUN. F. THORNTON. J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUN. R. H. BLACK.

Chairman of the Health Committee: Councillor F. THORNTON. J.P.

Chairman of the Housing Committee: Councillor M. MASON.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH L.B.

COUNCILLORS

A. ASTON.

G. COATES. ALD.

W. DODDS. J.P.

P. R. DOUTHWAITE.

W. EDWARDS.

W. FRANCIS.

MRS. I. GREEN.

MRS. M. GRENFELL.

G. W. KIRTLEY.

F. H. MANNERS.

E. McAULIFFE.

W. NUNN.

F. PICKERING.

A. J. RICHARDSON.

W. STOKOE.

B. WALKER. J.P.

T. H. WHITE.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time):

P. V. ANDERSON., M.B., B.S.

Sanitary Inspector:

W. K. HILL., M.B.E., C.R.San.I., A.I.Hsg.

Clerical Assistant:

S. THOMPSON.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ENDING. 31st DECEMBER. 1956.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work of the District during the year ending 31st December, 1956.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION.

The Registrar General's figures for the Area at Mid 1956, show the resident population as 14,050, this being a decrease of 110 over the previous year.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Birth Rate per 1,000 population.
Legitimate.	113	102	215	16.08 Crude.
Illegitimate.	7	4	11	18.56 Corrected.
	120	106	226	

Comparability Factor: .97

Still Births.				
Legitimate.	3	2	5	.42
Illegitimate.	1	-	1	
	4	2	6	

DEATH RATE.

Deaths in Shildon Area as per Returns to Medical Officer of Health.	111
Deaths outside Shildon Area.	44
Total Deaths notified.	155

Age Groups of Deaths in Shildon.

Under 1 yr.	1/5	5/15	15/25	25/45	45/60	60/70	70/80	Over 80.	Total.
3	-	-	-	3	12	26	39	28	111

Age Groups of Deaths Outside the Area.

Under 1 yr.	1/5	5/15	15/25	25/45	45/60	60/70	70/80	Over 80.	Total.
2	-	-	2	4	8	13	8	7	44

DEATH RATE (Contd)

Causes of Death, 1956.	Male.	Female.
All Causes.	88	67
Tuberculosis (Respiratory System)	-	1
Other Tubercular Diseases.	-	-
Syphilitic Disease.	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-
Measles.	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	6	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	-
Diabetes.	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	10	13
Coronary Disease, angina.	21	10
Hypertension with heart disease.	7	5
Other heart disease.	8	10
Other circulatory disease.	7	3
Influenza.	-	-
Pneumonia.	1	1
Bronchitis.	10	1
Other diseases of respiratory system.	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-
Congenital malformations.	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	5	7
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-
All other accidents.	2	4
Suicide.	1	-
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
	88	67

DEATH RATE (Contd)

	M	F	Total	Death Rate
Deaths.	88	67	155	11.03 per 1,000 population. 11.69 ,, ,, ,, Corrected.
Under 1 year.	3	2	5	22.1 ,, ,, Live Births.
Still Births.	4	2	6	26.5 ,, ,, ,, ,,

The Death Rate for the Country (England & Wales) is 12.2 per 1,000 population.

The total number of Births in excess of Deaths during the year was 71, as against 27 for the previous year and 61 for 1954.

NOTE:

Births in excess of Deaths:

1950	56 No.
1951	52 No.
1952	58 No.
1953	64 No.
1954	61 No.
1955	27 No.
1956	71 No.

Population Decreases since 1950-1951:

1950 - 1951	1955.	
14,740	14,160	580 No.
1955	**1956**	
14,160	14,050	110 No.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

The number of Deaths of children under the age one year is 5, representing an Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 22.1. Of these 5, only 3 occurred in Shildon, producing an Infant Mortality Rate of 10.4 per 1,000 Live Births for the Shildon Area only.

The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 16.7 per 1,000 Live Births for the year ending 1956.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

	Death Rate per 1,000 pop'n	Inf. Mort. Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Live and Still Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n
Country Average (England & Wales)	12.2	16.7			22.6
Shildon.	11.0	22.1	.42	16.08	
Shildon Area. (Only)		10.4			

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table of Cases as notified in the whole District, set out in age groups. (Civilians only)

Infectious Diseases.	Under 1 yr.	1/2	2/3	3/4	4/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/35	35/45	45/61	61 and over	At all ages
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	2	3	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	10	17
Whooping Cough.	3	2	10	10	10	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Measles.	2	2	7	3	10	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Tuberculosis:													
1. Males.													
a) Pulmonary.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3
b) Non-Pulmonary.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
2. Females.													
a) Pulmonary.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
b) Non-Pulmonary.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	5	17	15	24	29	1	-	1	3	7	10	117

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following cases remained on the register at the end of the year:

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
Males.	62	18	80
Females.	52	22	74
	114	40	154

This shows an increase of 5 Pulmonary Cases only over the previous year.

The number of known Tuberculosis Cases in the District represents 1.96 of the population, an increase of 0.43 over the previous year.

There were 6 cases notified during the year in the following age groups:

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under 1 year.	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 ,,	-	-	-	-
5 -10 ,,	-	-	-	-
10 -15 ,,	-	-	1	-
15 -20 ,,	-	-	-	-
20 -25 ,,	-	-	-	-
25 -30 ,,	-	-	-	-
30 -35 ,,	-	-	-	-
35 -40 ,,	1	-	-	-
40 -45 ,,	1	-	-	-
45 -50 ,,	-	-	-	-
50 -55 ,,	1	-	-	-
55 -60 ,,	-	2	-	-
60 -65 ,,	-	-	-	-
65 -70 ,,	-	-	-	-
	3	2	1	-

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

With the inception of the National Health Act, (5th July, 1948) this became the responsibility of the Durham County Council.
Not a single case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.
Parents are still encouraged to have their children immunised.

PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT.

Area (in acres) 4.828
(Eldon, Old Eldon, Middridge, Fylands and Brusselton)

No. of inhabited houses in the District. 4,690
(of which, 92 were constructed during the year, 30)
(Condemned and Demolition Order served under Section)
(11, of the Housing Act, 1936, 5 Closed under Section)
(10, of the Housing Act, 1936,(Local Government)
(Miscellaneous Provisions)Act, 1953., and 8 which)
(were in Clearance Areas, the tenants of such houses)
(Demolished and Closed, being re-housed by the Council)

Sum represented by a Penny Rate. £304
Rateable Value. £84,049

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The area is supplied by means of a piped supply of water, provided by the Durham County Water Board and continues to be ample in most Wards and is of excellent quality, but, in view of the increased demand for water, the general public are asked to conserve water at all times by being economical in using it.
Regular bacteriological and chemical tests are carried out by the Durham County Water Board on the supply to the District which have proved satisfactory.

Refuse Collection.

The whole area is serviced by the Council, this service including the collection of household refuse, trade refuse and salvage. Arrangements have been in hand during the year to convert the disposal of refuse from uncontrolled to controlled tipping. This method is to be commenced in 1957.

Collection of Salvage.

This service has been continued along with the normal collection of household refuse in the area and has proved highly successful during the year providing a substantial contribution to the General Rate Fund.

Description.	Tons.	Cwts.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper (all types)	91.	2.	696.	12.	6.
Scrap Metal.	25.	3.	373.	8.	9.
			£1,070.	1.	3.

Householders are again asked to co-operate by placing clean, dry paper in separate bundles by their Ash Bins on the normal day of collection.

Drains and Sewerage.

The drains and sewers continue to work in a satisfactory manner and the Sewage Works gives excellent results.

Rodent Control.

Two complete Sewer Treatments were carried out during April and November 1956, the results of which continue to show a drop in the number of rats present in the Urban Area. In addition, private businesses and dwelling houses were also treated as and where necessary.
A full-time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council for the purpose of carrying out this work.
The public are still requested to report promptly, Rat Infestation to the Council Offices on becoming aware of rats and mice on their premises.

No. of premises visited.	No. of baits laid.
419.	3,061.

The number of visits made during the year on Rat Infested premises during which Treatment was carried out being .. .. 1,658.

SUMMARY OF NOTICES AND WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1956.

1. New Houses completed during the year.

	With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total.
a) By Local Authority.	85	-	85
b) By any other Housing Authority.	-	-	-
c) By private persons.	-	7	7
	85	7	92

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA .. .. (Contd)

2. CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES.

a) Formal Action.

i) No. of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action .. .. 18 No.

ii) No. of houses Closed but not demolished as a result of formal action. .. .. 33 No.

iii) No. of houses in Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed .. .. 14 No.

iv) No. of houses in use as temporary accommodation. .. .. 1 No.
(Housing, Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Part.1.)

b) Informal Action.

i) No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above .. .. -

. RECONDITIONED AND REPAIR.

No. of houses made fit during the year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts:

a) As a result of informal action. 31 No.
b) By owners as a result of Statutory Notice. 31 No.
c) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

. GENERAL SUMMARY.

)

	No. of inspections.	No. of INFORMAL Notices served.	No. of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied after Notice.	Legal proceedings and General Remarks.
Housing: Public Health and Housing Acts:	421	74	31	62	Remainder outstanding until 1957.
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences: a) Insufficient.	3	-	-	3	Licenced premises.
b) Defective.	-	4	-	4	
Drainage.	12	8	8	8	
Water Supply.	-	3	3	3	
Food Premises.	120	24	9	17	
Shops Act.	-	-	-	-	
Dairies.	-	-	-	-	
Slaughter Houses: a) Public.	-	-	-	-	
b) Private.	253	-	-	-	
Tents, Vans etc.	-	-	-	-	
Offensive Trades.	-	-	-	-	
Factories and Workplaces.	40	4	-	4	
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles.	20	10	-	10	
Offensive Accummulations.	9	-	3	3	
Smoke Nuisances.	2	1	-	1	
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.	506	4	-	4	
Keeping of Animals.	-	-	-	-	
	1,386	132	57	119	

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA .. .. (Contd)

b) Water, Food and Drugs.

Samples of water taken for Analysis (water samples are taken by Durham County Water Board)	-
Seizures of Unwholesome Food (voluntarily surrendered)	146
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis.	2
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, found adulterated.	-

c) Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infectious Bedding Stoved or Destroyed.	4
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease.	14

d) General.

Number of new houses Erected during the year.	92
Number of such houses Occupied during the year.	92
Total number of Water Closets in District.	4,306
Total number of Ash-pit privies in District.	346.

MILK RETAILERS.

There are eight (8) Retail Purveyors in the District who are supplying either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk. Frequent samples have been taken by the Inspector of Weights and Measures and also by the Durham War Agricultural Executive Committee's representative and all were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MEAT)

There are now six (6) Licenced Slaughter Houses in the area, four of which are being used regularly for the purpose of slaughtering animals for human consumption. The standard of animals bought for slaughter remains very high.

	Beasts.	Pigs.	Sheep.
No. of animals inspected.	274	385	191
Meat Condemned.	289 lbs.		

FOOD SHOPS IN GENERAL.

Alterations continue to be carried out to food shops in the area by their respective owners or occupiers and the majority of shop premises are greatly improved. It is still felt however, that certain shops of the larger variety could set an example to the smaller types rather than the converse, which is taking place.

HOUSING.

a) The Council's Pre-War and Post-War Housing Programmes are summarised as follows:

1919 Act:	126 houses erected.
1930-1935 Act. (Slum Clearance)	
(Overcrowding)	100 ,, ,,
Post-War Temporary Housing.	43 ,, ,,
Post-War Permanent Housing.	537 ,, ,,
Post-War Aged Persons Bungalows.	45 erected.
Post-War Flats.	28 ,,

b) Re-Housing.

During the year, 85 houses were let to the following groups in accordance with the Council's Allocation of houses Scheme:

Points.	45 No.
Individual and Unfit Houses.	33 No.
Medical Cases.	3 No.
Key Workers.	1 No.
Eviction Cases.	3 No.
Total	85 No.

Re-Housing .. (b) .. Contd..

b) In view of the financial implications involved in the provision of houses together with the rapid deterioration of property earmarked for Slum Clearance, it is evident that the percentage of houses allocated to Slum Clearance will have to be increased so that areas in which demolition is now taking place can be rapidly cleared with a view to re-development. With this in mind, a five year scheme to include for the clearance of 214 houses was forwarded to the Minister and given his approval. Demolition of some of these houses has now commenced and the families are being re-housed and it is anticipated that by 1957, re-development will commence in areas already cleared as the beginning of a full scale re-development in the larger clearance areas.

c) The Council now have control, for letting purposes, of 979 houses, and, with the exception of 100 houses on Sunnydale Estate, all are the property of the Urban District Council of Shildon. Houses are allocated in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Allocation which includes a Points List, Slum Clearance, Medical Cases, Key Workers and Special Cases. Greater emphasis must be placed on housing for old people and single persons by the provision of more Bungalows as the demand for these increases yearly.
The number of applicants remaining on the Housing and Bungalow List at 31st December, 1956, were as follows:

Applicants.	Type.
113 No.	Bungalows.
158 No.	Two bedroom type houses.
41 No.	Three ,, ,, ,,

FACTORIES ACT, 1949.

Visits are paid regularly to the factories in the District to ensure that they comply with the various Provisioms, Rules and Orders under this Act, especially those with regard to Adequate Means of Escape in the event of Fire.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. V. ANDERSON.
Medical Officer of Health.
Urban District Council of Shildon.

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